



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6998**

January Session, 2007

\* \_\_\_\_\_ HB06998PRIAPP030907 \_\_\_\_\_ \*

**AN ACT ADOPTING THE 2006 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS  
COMMITTEE CONCERNING ADULT LITERACY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) As used in sections 1 to 7,  
2       inclusive, of this act:

3       (1) "Board" means the Adult Literacy Leadership Board;

4       (2) "Adult literacy programs" and "adult literacy services" means  
5       services aimed at improving the ability of persons sixteen years of age  
6       or over who are not enrolled in secondary school to read, write and  
7       speak in English, compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency  
8       necessary to function on the job, in the family of the individual and in  
9       society;

10       (3) "Adult education" means a program established pursuant to part  
11       V of chapter 164 of the general statutes;

12       (4) "Vision statement" means a written projected overview of the  
13       state's adult literacy programs and services at a specified future date;  
14       and

15       (5) "Mission statement" means a written declaration of the purpose  
16       of the state's adult literacy programs and services, including elements

17 that address the goals of helping adults develop the reading, critical  
18 thinking, problem solving skills and communication skills they need to  
19 be self-sufficient, active citizens, effective parents and qualified,  
20 competitive workers.

21 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) There is established the  
22 Adult Literacy Leadership Board. The board shall be within the  
23 Department of Education for administrative purposes only. The board  
24 shall consist of ten voting members and nine ex-officio nonvoting  
25 members. (1) The voting members shall be appointed as follows: (A)  
26 Four appointed by the Governor, (i) one of whom shall be a director of  
27 a local adult education program, (ii) one of whom shall be a director of  
28 a regional adult education program, (iii) one of whom represents a  
29 public library, and (iv) one of whom represents a business that has  
30 employees who lack basic literacy skills or proficiency in the English  
31 language; (B) one appointed by the speaker of the House of  
32 Representatives who represents a regional workforce development  
33 board; (C) one appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate  
34 who represents organized labor; (D) one appointed by the majority  
35 leader of the House of Representatives who represents a voluntary  
36 literacy organization; (E) one appointed by the majority leader of the  
37 Senate who represents an adult literacy advocacy group; (F) one  
38 appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives who  
39 shall represent the interests of persons receiving adult literacy services  
40 provided by the community-technical colleges; and (G) one appointed  
41 by the minority leader of the Senate who represents a community  
42 organization that operates an adult literacy program. (2) The ex-officio  
43 nonvoting members shall consist of the following members, or their  
44 designees: The Commissioners of Correction, Education, Higher  
45 Education, Economic and Community Development and Social  
46 Services, the Labor Commissioner, the director of the Office of  
47 Workforce Competitiveness, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
48 Management and the chancellor of the regional community-technical  
49 colleges. The voting members shall serve for a term of four years. The  
50 members of the commission shall serve without compensation but

51 shall, within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses  
52 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

53 (b) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the board from  
54 among its voting members. The board may create other positions it  
55 deems necessary and may fill such positions from among its members.  
56 The powers of the board shall be vested in and exercised by not less  
57 than five members of the board. Five members of the board shall  
58 constitute a quorum. The board may solicit and receive funds from any  
59 public or private sources to carry out its activities.

60 (c) The board shall terminate on July 1, 2012.

61 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Adult Literacy Leadership  
62 Board shall:

63 (1) Create vision and mission statements, by January 1, 2008;

64 (2) Develop and update a three-year strategic plan, in accordance  
65 with section 4 of this act;

66 (3) Report recommendations annually to the Governor and General  
67 Assembly for sources and levels of funding to meet the goals and  
68 objectives outlined in the strategic plan, in accordance with section 4 of  
69 this act;

70 (4) Establish performance measures for the adult literacy system  
71 and use them to track progress toward the goals and objectives  
72 outlined in the strategic plan;

73 (5) Develop and maintain an online centralized inventory of all  
74 adult literacy programs and services offered in the state that includes a  
75 description of the type of service, the time and place it is offered and  
76 any eligibility requirements or fees;

77 (6) Establish standards for adult literacy service providers,  
78 including requirements for waiting lists;

79 (7) Require each adult literacy service provider in the state to  
80 maintain a waiting list and report the information to the board, in  
81 accordance with standards it establishes;

82 (8) Promote coordination and collaboration of delivery of adult  
83 literacy programs and services through regionalized service delivery  
84 and community partnerships; and

85 (9) Prepare an annual state report card on the status of adult literacy  
86 in Connecticut, in accordance with section 5 of this act.

87 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) On or before January 1, 2008,  
88 the board shall develop a three-year strategic plan for an adult literacy  
89 system in Connecticut.

90 (b) The strategic plan shall: (1) Include goals for an adult literacy  
91 system including a goal of reducing by a certain percentage each year  
92 over a specified period of time the number of adults in this state who  
93 lack a high school diploma or proficiency in the English language; (2)  
94 define the roles of all adult literacy service providers in the state,  
95 examining in particular, (A) governance responsibility for adult  
96 education, (B) discrepancies in service delivery and ways to promote  
97 regionalized service delivery and community partnerships, and (C)  
98 resources for system-wide administration, management, research and  
99 coordination; (3) include priorities for services that (A) improve the  
100 quality of instruction, (B) improve access and retention, and (C)  
101 identify target populations for services; (4) include an analysis of  
102 funding requirements of all adult literacy services, identifying (A)  
103 estimated resources needed to implement the plan's goals, (B) current  
104 sources of funding and possibilities for reallocation, and (C) potential  
105 alternatives and new sources of funding; and (5) outline funding  
106 policies that provide (A) financial support and incentives to support  
107 collaborative delivery of services, and (B) adequate resources for state-  
108 funded agencies with adult literacy responsibilities, including public  
109 libraries, to carry out data collection, analysis, evaluation and research  
110 related to program effectiveness and best practices.

111 (c) The board shall designate regional planning workgroups  
112 consisting of representatives of adult literacy service providers and  
113 persons receiving adult literacy services to assist in developing and  
114 reviewing the strategic plan for adult literacy. The board shall review  
115 annually the implementation of the strategic plan and make any  
116 necessary revisions. The board shall update the strategic plan every  
117 three years.

118 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The state report card, prepared  
119 pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 3 of this act, shall provide  
120 information on the status of adult literacy in the state. The report card  
121 shall identify each major component of the adult literacy system,  
122 including, but not limited to, adult education, family literacy, and  
123 workplace literacy, and provide for each component: (1) The number  
124 and demographics of persons served, (2) a description of sources of  
125 funding, and (3) performance measures for adult literacy services.

126 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) On or before January 1, 2008,  
127 and annually thereafter, the board shall report, in accordance with  
128 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor and to the joint  
129 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
130 matters relating to correction, education, higher education, economic  
131 and community development, labor and human services on (1) the  
132 progress made in developing and implementing the strategic plan, (2)  
133 recommendations for sources and levels of funding to meet the goals  
134 outlined in the strategic plan, and (3) the report card prepared  
135 pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 3 of this act.

136 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The board may request other  
137 state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Departments of  
138 Education, Higher Education, Economic and Community  
139 Development and Social Services, the Labor Department, the Office of  
140 Workforce Competitiveness and the Board of Trustees of the  
141 Community-Technical Colleges to provide information, reports and  
142 other assistance in carrying out its duties.

143       Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is  
 144 appropriated to the Department of Education, from the General Fund,  
 145 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for personal services for two  
 146 full-time education consultant positions in the adult education unit of  
 147 the Department of Education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

**PRI***Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

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